

## St Adrian's Weekly Bulletin- Friday 26th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **GEOGRAPHY WEEK**

Geography week began on Earth Day, which was on Monday, with an assembly led by Mrs Porter which highlighted the need for us to be stewards of the Earth. The School Council then spoke about Earth Day and the theme for Geography week which was Plastic Vs Planet. The School Council introduced a speech writing competition 'Talk it Out' which is being held in school in which all the children, in their classes, are going to write persuasive speeches to encourage others to look after our planet.

All classes have been involved with cross-curricular as well as geography activities such as investigating the amount of plastic in litter in the local environment, litter picking, exploring with mathematical data which countries produced the most or least amount of plastic rubbish and some classes have explored the properties of plastics and how it can be used, reused, and recycled.

The message throughout the week has been clear- we use and throw away too much plastic. So the challenge for all of us is: to find more sustainable and environmentally friendly materials we can use instead of single-use plastics and where possible we should reuse and recycle as much as possible.

### **YEAR 5 CLASS MASS**

On Wednesday, the children in Year 5 lead a very spiritual and reflective Mass in their classroom. It centred around the theme of commitment and how they are committed to following the values and ethos of our school. All of the children behaved impeccably and they read and sang beautifully. Well done to all and thank you to Mr Creaton who led the hymns with his great guitar playing and of course thank you to Fr Francis for celebrating the Mass with us.



## **CHANGES TO OUR RELATIONSHIPS, HEALTH AND SEX EDUCATION POLICY**

Please can I draw your attention to changes that will be made to our RHSE policy that has been sent out for consultation today. Please read the accompanying letter and the policy and complete the Google form with comments about the key changes to the policy.

## **TRIPS AND RESIDENTIALS**

At St Adrian's, we strongly believe that school trips provide great personal development and cultural capital opportunities for our children and these tie in with our curriculum drivers. Please note that payments need to be made in full in advance of the trip (unless agreed by prior arrangements) this can be done in installments via your Arbor Trips section.

If we do not receive enough payments to cover the cost of the trips we sadly have to cancel them. Due to very low payments on some trips this year, the school has had to subsidise this at great cost. Sadly, if this becomes a trend, then we will have to cut back on those experiences.

Moving forward, if anybody would like to make a donation to sponsor another child for any trip or residential please contact the office or this payment can be made under 'support fund' in the shop section of Arbor.

When choosing trips or workshops for the children, we try to make it as cost effective as possible and sometimes may opt for a workshop in school rather than an off site visit using coaches.

Just to give you an idea of costings. The average cost for a coach just into St Albans is £200 with a coach to Portsmouth costing over £700 each way. This is where the greatest amount of the payments are required. We hope that you understand the situation and we appreciate your support in the matter.

## **CROWNING OF MARY**

We are all looking forward to our joyful Crowning of Mary assembly that takes place next week on Friday 3rd May at 9.00am. Each family or child is invited to bring in a plant. It would be great if this could be a perennial or hardier plant to celebrate Mary, the Queen of May. These might include dianthus, primroses, pansies, sweetpeas, calendula, wallflowers, geum, carnations, chrysanthemum, snap dragons, sweet william, bacopa, fuchsia, cineraria, osteospermum, lavender or herbs etc. etc. The garden centres are filled with many more plants to choose from and the children will certainly enjoy planting them all around the school grounds throughout May.

## **CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY LENTEN BOXES**

Thank you to everyone who collected for the Catholic Children's Society. We managed to raise £307.30 for this very worthy cause.

## **ONLINE SAFETY**

Dear Parents and Carers

Discussing online activities with your children is an essential part of modern life. This video gives advice on how to do this positively. I don't think any of us need to worry about looking as co-ordinated or perfect as the actors in the video! I know that my family has never looked like these ones... But the advice is sound. It's very easy to start conversations with good intentions but they can quickly become confrontational and that makes future conversations that bit harder to start.

This is the link - [Discussing Online Life with Your Child](#)

## ONLINE SECURITY IN SCHOOL

Herts for Learning has recently provided free to schools 'Senso Safeguarding Monitoring'. This system will run over our managed Windows devices and Chromebooks. This software monitors keystrokes and if certain words are typed by users, a screenshot will be taken and it will be sent to the relevant school staff. This will enable designated safeguarding leads in the school to monitor computer usage for appropriate searches as emails are sent directly notifying us of the user and what the search was. This is another system we have put in place to ensure the protection of your children online.

Thank you.

Mrs Gibbons ( Computing Lead)

## PTA UPDATE

### Family Bingo night

Friday 3rd May is our family bingo evening. 6-8pm. Pay on the door, Adults £5, under 16's £2. Looking forward to seeing lots of you there!

### 50 club winners

Congratulations to the following winners for April:

£25 Marie Thorley

£50 Hayley Booth

£100 Laura Donnellan

Please email the PTA on [stadrians.herts.pta@gmail.com](mailto:stadrians.herts.pta@gmail.com) to organise transfer of your winnings! Thank you for your continued support.

## HOUSE POINT WINNERS THIS WEEK ARE.....

**CONGRATULATIONS TO: St Matthew**

**St Matthew = 257**

**St Mark = 209**

**St John = 203**

**St Luke = 166**

## AWARDS THIS WEEK ARE .....

Class	Headteacher's Award	Star Writer Award
Reception	Trevi de Casa	Conor Byrne
Year 1	Lalena Mongan	Sienna Morrat
Year 2	Adam Chowdhury	Celine Simpson
Year 3	Victoria Omotoso	Cayel Evo Nagum
Year 4	Mia Grace	Harper Nash
Year 5	Chun Ho Fong	Austin McAuliffe
Year 6	Matilda Fenwood	Katie Giles

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES**

- Monday 29th April - Year 4 Mass ( in class children only)
- Tuesday 30th April - 6.00pm - Isle of Wight information evening for Year 6 parents
- Friday 3rd May - 9.00am - Crowning of Mary assembly - please donate plants if you can.
- Friday 3rd May - 6.00pm - 8.00pm - PTA Family Bingo event

Have a great weekend everyone.

Many thanks,

Mrs Porter